

MASON'S
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COIN COLLECTORS'



MAGAZINE.

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FEBRUARY, 1872.

No. 2.

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HISTORY ILLUSTRATED BY NUMISMATICS.

(Continued.)

The standard of the Greek silver coins, as has been remarked before, was the drachma. There were also hemidrachms of half the standard weight, didrachms of double, tridrachms of treble, tetradrachms of quadruple, and even octodrachms of eight times the weight of the standard. The obolus—derived from a Greek term signifying a spike or small obelisk—was the sixth of a drachm. It has also its multiples, diobolus and triobolus, and there was also the hemiobolus, the smallest silver coin of ancient Greece.

An alloy known amongst the ancients as electrum was sometimes coined into money. Its composition was a mixture of gold and silver.

The earliest copper money is now assigned to King *Æropus*, in Macedonia, about the year 397 B. C. It appears to have originated in an attempt to relieve the treasury of a drain consequent upon the ruinous expenditure necessitated by the Peloponnesian war. But its unpopularity is evinced by the circumstance that the orator *Dionysius*, who defended the project, became stigmatized with the epithet of "the brazen orator," or "man of brass." The largest copper pieces, excepting some enormously large ones of the Ptolemies, are believed to have been coined about 200 B. C., and are about the size of the copper penny of George III, issued in 1797. In value they were made equal to the silver obolus. The *chalcus*, of half the size of the copper obol, seems to have been the standard, having three subdivisions into halves, quarters and eighths of a *chalcus*, and accordingly denominated *tetralepton*, *dilepton* and *lepton*. The last is the "widow's mite," and is the smallest copper coin of ancient Greece.

A talent was equal to six thousand drachmæ. As the silver drachma weighed only one half that of the gold stater, and had a value equal to one twentieth part thereof, the talent of gold, being estimated by weight, would be equivalent to one hundred and twenty thousand silver drachmæ, or twenty talents of silver. No fixed rate, however, can be assigned either to the talent or the drachma, as the latter varied in weight in the several States. The talent, then, whenever mentioned in the Scriptures, does not refer to a coin, as might be supposed, but to a sum of money, varying in amount according to

whether gold or silver was intended. By valuing the silver drachma at fifteen cents, the gold talent would amount to eighteen thousand dollars, the silver talent to fifteen hundred dollars.

(To be continued.)

THE ST. PATRICK'S PENNY, OR MARK NEWBY'S NEW JERSEY COPPERS.

In the long and sad annals of Irish history, there is no brighter spot than the six years during which the Confederation of Kilkenny ruled with almost absolute sway, levying troops, sending out ambassadors and coining money; exercising, in fact, all the functions of a state. Well had it been for Ireland if they had at once disavowed the treacherous Stuart, Charles I, and sought a king from some state on the continent able to aid them.

The coins struck at this period, by the only independent authority Ireland possessed for centuries, are known as St. Patrick's pennies, and, although some doubts have been raised as to their origin, the uniform consent of historians that the Confederation coined money; the fine execution of the coins, evidently continental; and the frequency with which they are found at Kilkenny, have, after a thorough investigation by the Kilkenny Archæological Society, been recognized as deciding the question.

The pieces continued to circulate in Ireland long after the fond hopes of the Catholics were blasted; but at last an effort was made to remove from the people this perpetual remembrance of a period when they still had leaders, men of high birth, nobles of Irish and English origin, whose influence England had to respect.

By a curious course of circumstances, some of them became current coin in the colony of New Jersey. Smith, the historian of that province, tells us that Mark Newby, one of the two agents for the third or Irish tenth of New Jersey, brought over a great quantity of Patrick's pence, which were legalized in 1682; the act then passed declaring that "for the more convenient payment of small sums of money, Mark Newby's coppers, called Patrick's half-pence, should pass as half-pence current pay;" and thus a coin, minted probably at Rome, so associated with national independence in Ireland, proscribed by England, became legal tender in America.

ALASKA ANTIQUITIES AND CURIOSITIES.

(Concluded.)

MONEY.

When the Russians took possession of Alaska, they introduced, of course, their own national money, especially copper coin, thus supplanting the primitive barter by the modern bargain. The natives, by means of the Russian money, were able to buy articles they wanted from the stores of the Russians; but, as they were likewise enabled, by means of coin, to provide for their wants from foreign traders, especially from the British territory, the Russians, to preserve their

monopoly of trade, manufactured leather money as the only lawful currency for Alaska, thus preventing the natives, as well as their own employes, from bargaining with foreigners, and forcing them to supply their wants from the Russian stores. With the arrival of the Americans in Alaska, the leather money disappeared.

There were two varieties of Schnaps money, one good for a full drink and the other good for a half drink. These schnaps marks were abolished several years since. The officers of the late Russian American Fur Company were, by contract, entitled to a certain number of drinks, according to their rank and station. The number of marks varied from thirty to ninety drinks per month, paid together with the salary, entitling the receiver to the stipulated daily number of drinks at a certain bar established for this purpose. The half pieces were given to Indians.

MODERN ARMS.

We have admitted modern arms in this description, because we were anxious to show at once all sorts of personal weapons ever known in Alaska, from the club to the needle-gun. We think, however, this addition will not be in discord with the general object, more particularly as some of these arms have been used by natives. The greater part of them was chosen from the Russian arsenal in Sitka, as the most remarkable to be found there: Watchman's halberd—time of Catherine I; rifles made by Russian convicts, the barrel being furnished by the government; Caucasian guns captured by the Russians; Belgian rifle; rifle intended for killing whales; Russian target rifle; rifle with spring bayonet; rifle with sword bayonet; Swiss rifle; Russian musketoons; revolving rifle—first attempt at revolving apparatus; needle gun; needle carbines and several kinds of Russian pistols.

ANCIENT GOLD COIN FOUND.

A short time since, while several of the apprentices of Messrs. Croft, Wilbur & Co., confectioners, at No. 125 North Second street, in this city, were excavating in the cellar, to make room for a boiler and engine, they dug up a number of gold coins, which were wrapped in brown paper, and are supposed to have been placed there by a collector of old coins. Some are very ancient. One of them, the intrinsic value of which is about ten dollars, has upon it the letters F. V. A., and immediately under them the numbers 7, 4, 1, separated by raised lines. The characters upon it are two lions and two castles. The coin is roughly made, and seems to have been struck upon a die, the coiner using a hammer. Another of the coins, about as large in diameter as the half dollar of the United States, but not as thick, has upon it a representation of the head of Ferdinand VI, of Spain, the date being 1749. One of the boys secured twelve or fifteen of the pieces, of various kinds, and another almost as many. About five hundred dollars' worth in gold were gathered up. The oldest piece having a date upon it was made in the year 1678. The

Spanish coin is in excellent condition, the soil being sandy, and the paper in which they were wrapped well preserved.

A VALUABLE TABLE.

The annexed tables are worthy of preservation. They were prepared by the Director of the United States Mint, in accordance with Act of Congress, and are included in the report of ex-Governor Pollock to the Secretary of the Treasury. They show the value of silver and gold coins throughout the world, in American currency:

GOLD COINS.

Country,	Denominations.	Weight. Oz. Dec.	Fineness. Thou.	Value.
Australia,	Pound of 1852,	.281	916.5	\$5 32.37
"	Sovereign 1855-60,	.256.5	916.	4 85.58
Austria,	Ducat,	.112	986.	2 28.28
"	Souverain,	.363	900.	6 75.35
"	New Union Crown (assumed),	.357	900.	6 64.19
Belgium,	Twenty-five Francs,	.254	899.	4 72.03
Bolivia,	Doubloon,	.867	870.	15 59.25
Brazil,	20 Milreis,	.575	917.5	10 90.57
Central America,	Two Escudos,	.209	853.5	3 68.75
Chili,	Old Doubloon,	.867	870.	15 59.26
"	Ten Pesos,	.492	900.	9 15.35
Denmark,	Ten Thalers,	.427	895.	7 90.01
Ecuador,	Four Escudos,	.433	844.	7 55.46
England,	Pound or Sovereign, new,	.256.7	916.5	4 86.34
"	Pound or Sovereign, average,	.256.2	916.	4 84.92
France,	20 Francs, new,	.207.5	899.5	3 85.83
"	20 Francs, average,	.207	899.	3 84.69
Germany, North,	Ten Thalers,	.427	895.	7 90.01
Germany, North,	Ten Thalers, Prussia,	.427	903.	7 97.07
Germany, North,	Krone (Crown),	.357	900.	6 64.20
Germany, South,	Ducat,	.112	986.	2 28.28
Greece,	Twenty Drachms,	.185	900.	3 44.19
Hindustan,	Mohur,	.374	916.	7 08.18
Italy,	Twenty Lire,	.207	898.	3 84.26
Japan,	Old Cobang,	.362	568.	4 44.0
"	New Cobang,	.289	572.	3 57.6
Mexico,	Doubloon, average,	.867.5	866.	15 52.98
"	Doubloon, new,	.867.5	870.5	15 61.05
Naples,	Six Ducats, new,	.245	996.	5 04.43
Netherlands,	Ten Guilders,	.215	899.	3 99.56
New Granada,	Old Doubloon, Bogata,	.868	870.	15 61.06
New Granada,	Old Doubloon, Popayan,	.867	858.	15 37.76
New Granada,	Ten Pesos, new,	.525	891.5	9 67.51
Peru,	Old Doubloon,	.867	868.	15 55.67
Portugal,	Gold Crown,	.308	912.	5 80.66
Prussia,	New Union Crown (assumed),	.357	900.	6 64.19
Rome,	2½ Scudi, new,	.140	901.	2 60.47
Russia,	Five Roubles,	.210	916.	3 97.64
Spain,	100 Reals,	.268	896.	4 96.32
"	80 Reals,	.215	869.5	3 86.44
Sweden,	Ducat,	.111	975.	2 23.72
Tunis,	25 Piastres,	.161	900.	2 99.64
Turkey,	100 Piastres,	.231	915.	4 36.93
Tuscany,	Sequin,	.112	999.	2 31.29

SILVER COINS.

Country.	Denominations.	Weight. Oz. Dec.	Fineness. Thou.	Value.
Austria,	Old Rix Dollar,	.902	833.	\$1 02.27
"	Old Seudo,	.836	902.	1 02.64
"	Florin, before 1858,	.451	833.	51.14
"	New Florin,	.397	900.	48.63
"	New Union Dollar,	.596	900.	73.01
"	Maria Theresa Dollar, 1780,	.895	838.	1 02.12
Belgium,	Five Franes,	.803	897.	98.04
Bolivia,	New Dollar,	.643	903.5	79.07
"	Half Dóllar,	.432	667.	39.22
Brazil,	Double Milreis,	.820	918.5	1 02.53
Canada,	Twenty Cents,	.150	925.	18.87
Central America,	Dollar,	.866	850.	1 00.19
Chili,	Old Dollar,	.864	908.	1 06.79
"	New Dollar,	.801	900.5	98.17
Denmark,	Two Rigsdaler,	.927	877.	1 10.65
England,	Shilling, new,	.182.5	924.5	22.96
"	Shilling, average,	.178	925.	22.41
France,	Five Franes,	.800	900.	98.00
Germany, North,	Thaler, before 1857,	.712	750.	72.67
"	New Thaler,	.595	900.	72.89
Germany, South,	Florin, before 1857,	.340	900.	41.65
"	New Florin (assumed),	.340	900.	41.65
Greece,	Five Drachms,	.719	900.	88.08
Hindustan,	Rupce,	.374	916.	46.62
Japan,	Itzebu,	.279	991.	37.63
"	New Itzebu,	.279	890.	33.80
Mexico,	Dollar, new,	.867.5	903.	1 06.62
"	Dollar, average,	.866	901.	1 06.20
Naples,	Seudo,	.844	830.	95.34
Netherlands,	2½ Guilders,	.804	944.	1 03.31
Norway,	Specie Daler,	.927	807.	1 10.65
New Granada,	Dollar of 1857,	.803	896.	97.92
Peru,	Old Dollar,	.866	901.	1 06.20
"	Dollar of 1858,	.766	909.	94.77
"	Half Dollar of 1835-1838,	.433	650.	38.31
Prussia,	Thaler, before 1857,	.712	750.	72.68
"	Thaler, new,	.595	800.	72.89
Rome,	Seudo,	.864	900.	1 05.84
Russia,	Rouble	.667	875.	79.44
Sardinia,	Five Lire,	.800	900.	98.00
Spain,	Pistareen, new,	.166	899.	20.31
Sweden,	Rix Dollar,	1.092	750.	1 11.48
Switzerland,	Two Franes,	.323	899.	39.52
Tunis,	Five Piastres,	.511	898.5	62.49
Turkey,	Twenty Piastres,	.770	830.	86.98
Tuscany,	Florin,	.220	925.	27.60

QUARTZITE IMPLEMENTS.

A large collection of chipped quartzite implements has been found on the river Godavery, in Bengal. The forms are similar to those found in French and English gravels, the length varying from about three inches to six inches. The spot where they were found appears to have been a place of manufacture.

REVIEW OF THE ERRORS OF THE CLAY PRICE LIST.

AS PUBLISHED BY THE N. E. N. SOCIETY.

Lot 54.	Printed list, \$9 00.	Sold for \$8 50.
81.	" 9 25.	" 9 00.
159.	" 1 50.	" 1 00.
182.	" 5 00.	" 5 25.
197.	" 1 15.	" 1 10.
240.	" 2 50.	" 2 25.
*270.	" 2 70.	" 6 50.
297.	" 75.	" 2 75.
315.	" 3.	" 6.
316.	" 3.	" 25.
331.	" 50.	" 25.
335.	" 1.	" 10.
374.	" 25.	" 15.
547.	" 1 00.	" 56.
553.	" 56.	" 1 00.
554.	" 56.	" 1 00.
555.	" 1 00.	" 1 13.
556.	" 1 13.	" 1 32.
619.	" 1 25.	" 40.
702.	" 20 00.	" 19 00.
731.	" 1 00.	" 2 50.
749.	" 6 50.	" 6 00.
751.	" 30.	" 80.
758.	" 35.	" 55.
772.	" 1 70.	" 1 50.
784 to 787, inclusive, no prices given.		
791.	Printed list, \$ 25.	Sold for \$ 50.
874.	" 70.	" 50.
879.	" 2 25.	" 3 25.
935.	" 4 30.	" 4 50.
950.	" 3 25.	" 3 00.
954.	" 50.	" 1 00.
987.	" 7 50.	" 7 00.
1002.	" 1 00.	" 1 50.
1108.	" 5 00.	" 4 75.
1138.	" 5 00.	" 63.
1189a.	" 3 25.	" 8 00.
1190.	" 4 00.	" 3 25.
1333.	" 2 25.	" 4 50.

* Evidently a typographical error, lot repeated as price instead of the sum sold for.

COIN SALE.

Bangs, Merwin & Co. sold at public auction, on January 5, 1872, a small private collection of coins prepared by Alfred S. Robinson, of Hartford, Connecticut. Attendance and prices fair.

NUMISMATIC AND ANTIQUARIAN SOCIETY OF MONTREAL.

We are pleased to hear that our friends in the Dominion of Canada are about to publish a magazine, under the auspices of the above society, devoted to the gathering and treasuring up of information having reference mainly to Canadian subjects. We wish the contemplated "fellow laborer" every success. We know the society has a number of energetic gentlemen within its circle, and we believe it will commence with a fair prospect of good fortune. It is proposed at first to issue a quarterly of forty-eight pages. In our next issue we may be able to announce full particulars. It is our wish and hope that the Montreal association will, through their new journal, give particular attention to the types and varieties of Canadian coins, medals and tokens.

A LONDON COIN DEALER.

William Webster, a dealer in old coins at Covent Garden, London, England, has written us a strange letter with a view of palliating the inexcusable conduct of his agents in receiving bids from us while in London, last spring, upon a sale of coins in prospective, and entirely ignoring said bids to accommodate W. S. Appleton, Esq., of Boston, and John King, London, who obtained the pieces bid upon at a less figure than we offered. A few words of explanation before presenting the arguments of Mr. Webster as given in his letter now before us. In May, we called at Mr. Webster's house and had an interview with his son, an adult, giving our standing in America and referring to W. S. Lincoln & Son, with whom we had some considerable business in the coin line; also, referring to other parties in England, and stating our purpose in calling to obtain rare and choice American coins. Mr. Webster informed us that his father was sick, but he was fully authorized to treat with us, and kindly exhibited a large variety of American and antique foreign coins. We purchased a gold sovereign for three pounds and a pine tree shilling for ten shillings. We were then shown a private collection of foreign and American coins, and discovered a fine lot of proof and uncirculated silver and copper United States coins mixed and piled up in a tray with a quantity of trashy pieces. We carefully and considerably extracted the beautiful 1796 and 1797 United States silver half dollars we espied in the mass and laid them aside; next we discovered in the same amalgamated mass a 1796 United States quarter dollar and dime; also, 1793, 1795, 1800 and some few other cents and half cents, all bright and beautiful. We then offered to bid on them, stating that we would leave a deposit or references for security, and if the pieces were purchased for us at the sale to occur in August or September following, Mr. Webster would please notify us and we would send bill of exchange covering the purchase money and commission. Mr. Webster, Jr., said there was no necessity of a deposit, and he would be pleased to execute the order. To our surprise and chagrin, we

discovered that W. S. Appleton, Boston, and John King, London, secured the pieces we had bid upon. After discovering a "mouse in the meal chest," we dispatched a letter to Mr. Webster, demanding why we did not secure the pieces bid upon; we also obtained the assistance of a friend, residing in London, to inquire into the matter at Mr. Webster's office. This friend was treated with great discourtesy, and rudely repelled, while politely investigating an injustice done a coin dealing firm in the United States.

We give Mr. Webster's explanatory letter, remarking that it reads very much like the old "broken pot" story; "*never had the pot; was broken when I got it,*" etc. It will be seen that Mr. Webster lost our card containing the bids, and yet his memory of the whole address was perfect when he wrote the following letter:

HENRIETTA STREET, COVENT GARDEN,
LONDON, December 28, 1871.

MESSRS. MASON & Co.,

No. 139 North Ninth Street, Philadelphia, United States of America.

SIRS: In reply to yours, received December 9. When Mr. Mason was last in England, I was laid up on a bed of sickness. Consequently, my son saw him, and after selling him a few coins showed him some very fine American pieces that we were about to catalogue for public sale, upon which Mr. Mason said he would give ten pounds each for the half dollars of 1796 and 1797, and made one or two other bids, which I cannot distinctly recollect, having lost the card of your firm upon which my son himself put down the prices. He showed me this card when I was well enough to be consulted on the approaching sale, and then, when I found that Mr. Mason had left no deposit on the bids he made, I told my son I could not think of buying for any one that was quite a stranger to me, without he had left such a deposit. Unfortunately, the day of sale was fixed for an earlier date than we anticipated, and there was no time to write you my intention or even to send you a catalogue, that is to say, for me to have had a reply from you in time for the sale.

If it will be of any service to you to know, I will tell you that I should not have been able to procure for you the half dollars of 1796 and 1797, as I had a commission for each, twenty per cent. higher than yours. With regard to the others that you wanted, Mr. King, I see, bought some of them, and I have no doubt but that he will let you have them as reasonable as anybody. Regretting the disappointment that I am afraid I have caused you,

I remain, sirs, yours, very faithfully,

WM. WEBSTER.

"Twenty per cent. higher," "lost the card of your firm," "left no deposit," "laid up on a bed of sickness," "a stranger to me," "Mr. King, I see, bought some," "will let you have them," etc.

Now all this bosh means, if it means anything, that Mr. Webster committed a grave error in ignoring well-known coin dealers to accommodate a wealthy patron, and a graver one in bidding in the pieces at less than *bona fide* bids from a party he knew was visiting England to buy a ten thousand dollar cabinet of coins. If Mr. Webster will notify his patron, whose bid was "twenty per cent. higher," that we will take the two half dollars, and allow the "twenty per cent." and said patron hands them over, we shall be willing to forgive, if not forget, the unkind and discourteous treatment received from this London coin dealer.

OUR SECOND EDITORIAL TOUR.

On December 18, of last year, we left Philadelphia for a second visit to New York, New Jersey and New England, in search of coins and relics, and with a view of forming the personal acquaintance of our patrons in the localities visited. After a brief stay at Jersey City, we arrived at the St. Nicholas Hotel, New York, on the 19th, where by appointment we met Wm. Poillon, Esq., an enthusiastic numismatist, and passed a portion of the day in the exhibition and examination of coins, attending an extensive sale of diamonds and coins, at noon, in Chambers street, where we met several well-known collectors, including Strobridge, Balmano, Sampson and others. We left New York for New Haven on the night of the 19th of December, stopping at the latter city the day following, where we visited the principal collectors, among whom were Parsons, Petrie, Gill, Gallagher, Edwards and Stoddard. We had the pleasure of personally inspecting Mr. George Gill's fine collection of American coinage. Adding a few names to our subscription list, we pushed on to Hartford, where we arrived on December 21, and was generously received and entertained by Alfred S. Robinson, Esq., the distinguished gold broker and coin-dealer, at whose residence we passed the night, the coldest one we remember, the thermometer being seven degrees below zero. Mr. Robinson nor the writer will not soon forget that bitter, bitter cold midnight we walked from his office to his residence against a head wind, loaded down with a pellisier, crammed with coins, and part the time walking backwards to keep the eyelids, nose and ears from freezing. Carriages could not be had; cars did not run; the frozen ground creaked under our cold hoofs like a new, heavily-laden country sled. December 22, we parted with Mr. Robinson reluctantly. A more whole-souled gentlemen we seldom meet with, and Mr. Robinson parted with his cash to the amount of one hundred and eighty dollars, receiving, in the gladness of his heart, some beautiful and rare coins as a *quid pro quo*.

From Hartford to Springfield, making new acquaintances and patrons as we proceeded, and meeting with kind and cordial greetings, at the latter city, from Nichols, Johnson, Bolen, Newell, Estes, Clogston and a half score more of clever numismatic companions; visited the United States Armory; enjoyed an up-hill and down-hill old-fashioned sleigh ride, remaining two days among our Springfield friends, inspecting cabinets for the future instruction of our readers.

From Springfield to West Brookfield, on the 24th, paying a forced visit to the latter village, having been left in the depot sipping a cup of hot coffee (excellent in its aroma and appetising in its effects), while the cars stole softly away without the usual conductor's alarm cry of "All aboard!" It was late that night, the snow was deep, and a blinding snow storm prevailing; concluded to tumble over on top of a wood box by the side of a glowing healthy-looking old-fashioned wood stove, but a gentleman, with a big coat and small lantern, informed us that he must close up, and that strangers could

find lodging accommodations at a tavern not distant from the depot. We growlingly grabbed our leather satchel, weighed down with coins and woe at our benighted prospects, and followed the direction indicated by the watchman's dirty dexter digit, as he opened the rear door and pointed to a light occasionally glimmering like an *ignis fatuus* in the dim and snowy distance. Coins were at a heavy discount just then as we trudged along with our unwelcome load over the fields and road (the deep snow having obliterated all traces of civilization), feeling like the "Wandering Jew," without a habitation or a friend. At one moment, we stepped upon a snow-hidden fence rail, and plunged forward into a snow bank, and the next minute brought up all standing in a ditch with an uncomfortable current of cool liquid bubbling over our boot tops. But all things terminate, and at the height of our extreme misery we reached the tavern, walked up the dilapidated steps, and entered a small room with dirty, dingy walls and broken furniture. Two roughly accoutered men, who might be woodchoppers when engaged in a respectable calling, were interrupted in some little game or conversation, and stared like marble statues at the big, burly, snow-covered stranger who came stamping, stumbling in through the bar room door. "Can a stranger be accommodated with lodging and breakfast here?" was our first inquiry after recovering the proper use of oxygen, and the inquiry seemed very necessary, for the accommodations at first appearance looked scanty enough, except for the two individuals who occupied the greater portion of the room and the only chair in sight. A dirty, greasy, ink-bedabbed book, dubbed on the outside, "Register," was presented in answer to our query, and taking the hint and an apology for a pen, endorsed a record that seemed to have been out of use for two hundred years, and yet a name preceded ours only a few months earlier than the date we recorded. A candle and one of the aforesaid gentlemen preceded us through an entry, up a flight of stairs into a small and poorly furnished room, where we were left without fire or water, in fact, without any of the little necessities so naturally needed by a weather-beaten and care-worn traveler. Oh, what a night! morning came; as we looked out of the window, over the vast sheet of snow, houses and barns appeared; breakfast was eaten—seventy-five cents paid the bill—and gladly away towards the depot we bent our steps; took the early train for Boston, via Worcester, and enjoyed a good nap in the car seat, having that rest and peace of mind we had not for a moment enjoyed since leaving the cars, the night previous, for that "Ten minutes for refreshments!"

(*To be continued.*)

COIN SALE.

A collection of coins, medals, etc., is now being prepared in this city for public sale. Due notice will be given of the time, and catalogues sent to all our patrons. The sale will take place early in March.

REPLIES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

SUBSCRIBERS.—D. A. K. A. (3 copies), H. P. A., G. W. B., A. B., W. H. B., J. E. B., T. C., H. McC., R. C. D., L. W. D., G. E., J. G., Jr., Mrs. L. H., A. H., G. B. H., J. H., T. W. P. (club of 10), J. H. 2d, W. J. J., R. K., J. McK., R. A. M., J. J. M., F. J. M., R. W. McL., J. N., O. C. S., G. P., G. P. 2d, L. J. P., L. P., W. H. P., Dr. J. C. P., H. G. P., A. C. D. H., J. F. P., N. R., E. L. R., S. S. R., A. S. R. (2 copies), W. A. S., L. S., F. R. S., J. F. T., A. H. J. (6 copies). All others acknowledged by mail.

H. R. Jr., MILWAUKEE.—A correct priced catalogue of the Clay sale will cost you at least five dollars. The N. E. N. Society price list is not correct.

L. P. R., NEW HAVEN.—Hereafter please enclose a three cent stamp for each coin ordered the size of the old copper cent. When you order foreign coppers at three cents each, remember the fact that each coin mailed costs us three cents postage. All small orders to go by mail should be prepaid, or we will deduct the postage from the money sent.

S. P. H., CHICAGO.—You can get the first edition of Dr. Maris' work on the copper issues of 1794 for twenty-five cents. Second edition out of print.

M. A. W., BOSTON.—Orders will receive prompt attention and be always filled, if coins can be obtained.

W. P. C., OSHKOSH.—This correspondent corrects an error in December number, viz: "The second cent in my article on varieties should have been 1803 and not 1808. The word *lead* should have been *tend*."

E. L. PEMBERTON, BIRMINGHAM, ENGLAND.—It is now nearly four months since we sent you a lot of stamps on approval. Oblige us by saying if you received them, and also if you propose to keep them. (100 1c. Confederate Stamps, lot of United States Envelopes, etc.)

E. B. T., WATKINS.—Coins received. Account square. Many thanks. The Continental white metal piece you obtained for \$1 50 is the same that cost us \$2 25 at the Clay sale.

T. GRACE, PHILADELPHIA.—The medal you speak of is intended to represent the old State House, as it stood in 1776. The Washington monument in front is entirely wrong.

NATURAL CURIOSITY.

Drs. D. D. Swift and J. W. Zell, of Lancaster county, Pa., have in their possession a piece of quartz or flint about the size of a man's fist, one side of which reveals a striking resemblance to the face of Washington—the forehead, eyes, nose and chin of the great chieftain being plainly discernible. It is said the likeness is more striking by lamp-light. It was found by John McComsey, of Drumore township, on the road between Bethel and the Unicorn, one evening in last November.

PAPER MONEY SALE.

The sale of Colonial and Continental paper money, at Bangs, Merwin & Co.'s sale rooms, New York, January 31, was well attended, and prices generally ruled low. The Vermont note (excessively rare) sold for thirteen dollars. There was quite a demand for Confederate notes, and, judging by the prices realized and competition manifested, we think the Confederate currency will rise in value as relies of American history.

TO OLD SUBSCRIBERS.

Additional names of new subscribers to volume sixth of our journal have absorbed nearly all of the January numbers. All those intending to subscribe this year will please hand in their names before the January number is exhausted. All orders hereafter are to be sent to the Assembly Building, corner of Tenth and Chestnut streets, in this city.

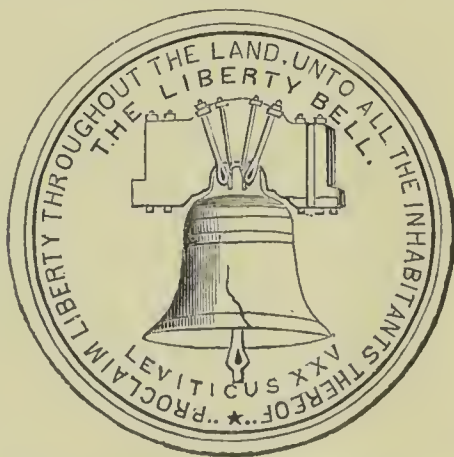
REMOVAL.

The removal of our place of business to the Assembly Building, in this city, has delayed the appearance of this issue a day or two. We must apologize to our patrons for a want of punctuality in filling orders and neglect in continuing the "Cabinet" article commenced in December number. We hope to make amends, now that our office is in running order, and all orders will hereafter be promptly filled.

PROOF SETS FOR 1872.

We will mail proof sets for the present year, post paid, for \$4 25.

INDEPENDENCE HALL AND LIBERTY BELL MEDAL.



We are prepared to furnish this medal at the following prices:

Silver Proof,	\$3 75
Copper Proof,	75
Brass Proof,	75
White Metal Proof,	50

MASON & Co., Assembly Building, Philadelphia

PRICED COIN CATALOGUES.

Catalogues of any Large Cabinet of Coins sold during the past ten years in the United States priced, to order, ... \$3 00
Small Priced Catalogues of any Sale, ... 1 50
For List of Priced Catalogues enclose stamp to

MASON & CO., Assembly Building, Philadelphia.

SET OF MAGAZINES FOR SALE.

Vol. 1 Mason's Coin and Stamp Collectors' Magazine, ...	\$5 00
Vol. 2 Mason's Coin and Stamp Collectors' Magazine, ...	3 50
Vol. 3 Mason's Coin and Stamp Collectors' Magazine, ...	3 00
Vol. 4 Mason's Coin and Stamp Collectors' Magazine, ...	2 00
Vol. 5 Mason's Coin and Stamp Collectors' Magazine, ...	1 50

MASON & CO., Assembly Building, Philadelphia.

COINS FOR SALE.

English Silver Crowns, prior to 1700 ; good condition, ...	\$2 50
English Half Crowns ; old dates, ...	1 00
French Medals ; bronze ; proof, ...	75
Greek Silver Coins, ...	75
" Brass " 	50
Roman Silver Coins, ...	50
" Brass " 	15
California Gold Dollar, octagon or round, ...	1 75
" Half Dollar, " 	75
" Quarter Dollar, octagon or round, ...	50
United States Mint Sets—Five, Three, Two and One Cent Pieces ; 1872 ; proofs, ...	25
United States Mint Sets—One Dollar to One Cent, inclusive ; 1872 ; proofs, ...	4 50
100 Store Cards, all different, fine, ...	3 00
100 Rebellion Tokens, all different, fine, ...	3 00
Silver Proof Sets, 1859 to 1870, each, ...	5 50

MASON & CO., Assembly Building, Philadelphia.

PHOTOGRAPHIC CURIOSITIES.

The London Times in miniature—a photographic copy of the great newspaper—every word and letter distinct and in exact form and appearance of the original—4 inches by 3 inches. Every lover of the curious should have a copy. Price, 25 cents.

MASON & CO., Assembly Building, Philadelphia.

UNITED STATES ENVELOPE STAMPS.

Complete sets of United States Envelope Stamps, issue of 1865, cut with wide margin, 9 envelopes, 3 cents to 40 cents, per set, free of postage, \$1 50.

MASON & CO., Assembly Building, Philadelphia.